

Amendment filed 05/10/06
In Response to Office Action mailed 2/13/06

App. No. 09/868,752
005222.00165

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending with this paper. Claims 1-19 are rejected by this Office Action. As asserted by the Office Action, the arguments presented by Applicant in the paper mailed July 7, 2005 are moot because of the new grounds of rejection presented in this Office Action.

Other Amendments

Applicant is amending claims 1 and 19 to replace "the unit of feedback" with "the cohesive unit of feedback" to clarify the antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-6, 9-15, and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,727,950 (Cook).

Applicant is amending claim 1 to include the features of "selecting a plurality of the active pieces of remediation for delivery" and "assembling the plurality of the active pieces of remediation into a cohesive unit of feedback." (Emphasis added.) The amendment is supported by the present patent application as originally filed. For example, the specification discloses (Page 19, lines 26-33. Emphasis added.):

After the profiling Component completes, the Remediation Component is invoked. The remediation algorithm searches the active topics in the tree of concepts to determine the best set of topics to deliver. This set may contain text, video, audio, URLs, even actions that manipulate the Domain Model. It is then assembled into prose-like paragraphs of text and media and presented to the student. The text feedback helps the student localize his journalization errors and understand why they are wrong and what is needed to correct the mistakes. The student is presented with the opportunity to view a video war story about the tax and legal consequences that arise from incorrect journalization. He is also presented with links to the reference materials that describe the fundamentals of journalization.

The present specification further discloses (Page 21, lines 1-9. Emphasis added.):

Figure 21 illustrates the mapping of a source item to a target item in accordance with a preferred embodiment. When the student is ready, he submits his work to one of the simulated team members by clicking on the team member's icon. When the ICAT receives the student's work, it calculates how much of the work is correct by concept. Concepts in our journalization activity will include Debits, Credits, Asset Accounts, etc. For each of these concepts, the ICAT will review all

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student actions and determine how many of the student actions were correct. In order for the ICAT to understand which targets on the interface are associated with each concept, the targets are bundled into target groups and prioritized in a hierarchy. Once all possible coach topics are activated, a feedback selection analyzes the active pieces of remediation within the concept hierarchy and selects the most appropriate for delivery. The selected pieces of feedback are then assembled into a cohesive paragraph of feedback of feedback and delivered to the student.

The Office Action alleges that (Page 7.):

... ◦ Selecting at least one of the active pieces of remediation for delivery (C5-63 especially "Generally, agent behavior ... several instructional sessions" C58 L 10-45 and "Error responses include retry policies and selection and remediation paths. Remediation can be item sequencing options given on the basis of retry outcome" C32 L50-60; Also see Fig. 4 and Fig. 5);

◦ Assembling the at least one of the active pieces of remediation into a cohesive unit of feedback (C5-63 especially "A further important ... student's pedagogic characteristics" C6 L55-65 and "system components preferably have an interface to the agent in order that the agent can control the materials and guide the student in a uniform manner" C48 L10-15 and "Generally, agent behavior ... several instructional sessions" C58 L10-45; Also see Fig.8 and Fig. 9); ...

However, Cook fails to even suggest the above features. For example, fig. 4 of Cook merely displays text 506 "To add fractions, first you need common denominators" in response to the student answering item presentation 503 ($4/9 + 3/11 = ?$) by selecting wrong input button 504 ($4/9 + 3/11 = 7/20$). Cook merely provides text corresponding to a single rule (corresponding to a single piece of remediation) being violated by the student's answer. However, there are other rules (corresponding to other pieces of remediation) that the student must satisfy in order to correctly answer the question. For example, the student also must correctly adjust the numerators. The student may do so by cross multiplying the numerators and the denominators and by multiplying the denominators together. While the above scenario illustrates the benefits of including several pieces of remediation within a cohesive unit of feedback to the student, Cook fails to even suggest a plurality of pieces of remediation.

Similarly, claim 10 includes the features of "logic that selects a plurality of the active pieces of remediation for delivery" and "logic that assembles the plurality of the active pieces of remediation into a cohesive unit of feedback." Claim 19 includes the features of "selecting a plurality of the active pieces of remediation for delivery" and "assembling the plurality of the active pieces of remediation into a cohesive unit of feedback." Claims 2-5, 9, 11-15, and 18

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ultimately depend from claims 1 and 10 and thus are not anticipated by Cook. Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 1-6, 9-15, and 18-19.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

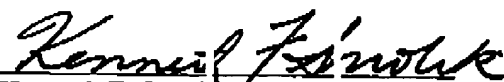
Claims 7-8 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cook in further view of W.I.P.O. International Publication Number WO 97/44766 (Cook₂).

Claims 7-8 and 16-17 depend from claims 1 and 10, respectively. Moreover, Cook₂ does not remedy the deficiencies of Cook. Thus, claims 7-8 and 16-17 are patentable for at least the above reasons. Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 7-8 and 16-17.

All objections and rejections have been addressed. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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